CORE PROGRAM

COLLEGE OF ARTS AND SCIENCES
PROGRAM OVERVIEW

The pursuit of knowledge involves more than just classroom attendance and seminars. One way to expand your academic horizons is the University of Dayton’s Core Program. Core offers you innovative courses stressing the connections between academic disciplines. With this foundation of broad-based knowledge, you’ll have the ability and flexibility to pursue all your interests and goals.

Core’s two-and-a-half-year curriculum fulfills many aspects of the University’s Common Academic Program, so you’ll stay on track with your graduation requirements. In addition, extracurricular speakers, arts and cultural events, and other activities related to course content are important aspects of the program.

INTEGRATED LEARNING-LIVING COMMUNITY

Core, which celebrated its 30th anniversary in spring 2015, is the oldest integrated learning-living community (ILLC) at UD. ILLCs blur the lines between living and learning, meaning you’ll live in the same residence hall as some of your classmates. As part of an ILLC, you’ll live with people who share your interests, develop lasting friendships — and find it’s easy to form study groups. Many students report ILLCs are a highlight of their UD experience.

COURSE STRUCTURE AND ADVANTAGES

As part of the Core Program, you’ll take courses in the humanities, arts and social sciences addressing a common theme: human values in a pluralistic culture. In Core classes, you’ll spend more time improving and sharpening your writing skills: Core student achievement in writing courses is routinely found to be the best among all first-year writing courses at the University.

During your first year, you’ll take a 15-credit-hour course sequence that explores the liberal arts in small seminars and specialized lecture presentations. Second- and third-year courses build upon concepts from the first year and carry Core themes into discussions of contemporary issues. A special Core graduation takes place in the spring of your junior year.

While Core is not an honors or accelerated program, you’ll receive 15 hours of honors credit for completing the Core Program with a B average, meaning the only additional requirements for an honors diploma are writing an honors thesis or taking two additional honors courses. In this way, the Core Program allows you to become an honors student.
ACADEMIC SUPPORT
You’ll receive guidance from highly committed faculty members throughout your experience. Core fellows, who are second-year Core students, provide peer support for first-year students and aid in exam preparation and paper writing. Core resident assistants also assist first-year students, and two Core houses in the student neighborhood offer guidance from upper-level students and organize social activities for everyone in the program.

WHO CAN CHOOSE CORE?
Core is open to all students unless restricted by major. First-year students majoring in American studies, art history and the humanities take Core classes, but students in other majors may participate. Each year, 80-120 students join the program.

WHY CHOOSE CORE?
›› Integrated learning experience.
›› Fulfillment of many Common Academic Program requirements.
›› Close faculty attention.
›› Strong friendships and peer support.
›› Extracurricular cultural and arts events.

STUDENT QUOTES
“Core students remain some of the brightest and most enthusiastic students on campus. They are truly interested in what they are learning.”—Katlin Sarantou

“What I really like about the Core Program is how it presents what is at first glance a collection of disparate subjects and forges them into a cohesive, cogent whole. As Dr. Trollinger says, ‘Life is interdisciplinary, so why shouldn’t your education be interdisciplinary?’”—Will Tripp

“I have new skills of being able to look at history through a philosophical lens or literature through religion, or any variation. Never before have I understood the power of interpretation in historical study. Core truly opened my eyes. Core made me a better writer, a better critical thinker and simply a better learner.” —Julie Baffoe
CONTACT

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